

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2123

USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1629

INFO CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6242

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, KN

SUBJECT: DISSATISFACTION WITH JAPAN'S ROLE IN KOREAN MEMBERSHIP VOTE

1. SEOUL PRESS HAS BEEN SUGGESTING THAT JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S DECISIONS AS UNSC PRESIDENT CONTRIBUTED TO COUNCIL'S REFUSAL TO LIST KOREAN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ON AGENDA. PROMPTED BY PRESS ALLEGATIONS JAPANESE EMBASSY HAS BEEN PROBING FOREIGN MINISTRY ATTITUDES. FOREIGN MINISTRY RESPONSES HAVE, ACCORDING TO BOTH PARTIES, BEEN REASSURING. JAPANESE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT MAJOR OBJECTIVE WAS TO LINK KOREAN AND VIETNAMESE MEMBERSHIP THROUGH VETO TO PROVIDE LEVERAGE FOR A FUTURE DEAL. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED. THEREFORE FAILURE TO GET KOREAN APPLICATION ON AGENDA IS OF LITTLE CONSEQUENCE.

2. PRIVATELY, KOREANS HAVE TOLD EMBOFF THAT MOFA IS CONCERNED OVER APPARENT LACK OF COORDINATION BETWEEN KOREAN AND JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE IN NEW YORK. SPEED AND CONFUSION OF EVENTS LEADING TO UNSC DECISION TO SCHEDULE EARLY VOTE CONTRARY TO ROKG DESIRES AND TO VOTE SEPARATELY ON EACH APPLICATION DESPITE APPARENT DISADVANTAGES TO ROK STILL PUZZLES RESPONSIBLE MOFA OFFICIALS. SATISFACTORY
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EXPLANATION HAS STILL NOT COME FROM ROK MISSION IN NEW YORK.

DESPITE SOOTHING RESPONSES TO JAPANESE QUERIES, MOFA COULD
SUCCUMB TO DOUBTS ABOUT JAPANESE ROLE IF SITUATION NOT
CLARIFIED.

3. FOR USUN: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS USUN CAN OFFER
ON WHY UNSC CHAIRMAN'S DECISIONS WENT THE WAY THEY DID,
IF THIS WOULD HELP EASE MOFA CONCERN.
ERICSON

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